How to Run VIs and Highlight Execution Tutorial

How to Run your VI

You will notice that in the toolbar at both the Front Panel design workspace and the Block Diagram workspace, there is a button that looks like this . This is the Run button which begins execution of your VI.

How to Highlight execution

Suppose you want to trace the flow of data in the execution of your VI for purposes of debugging or just to see how it works. This can be accomplished in the Block Diagram workspace by pressing this button in the toolbar. This is the Highlight Execution button and tells LabView to show how all pieces of data flow through your VI when it is activated (the Light Bulb is on).

To disable highlighting, simply click the button again and the Light Bulb will turn off.

Note that Highlighting execution will slow down execution significantly.

How to Halt or Terminate Execution

First of all note that these two execution control buttons freeze execution programmatically.

If you want to pause or abort the execution of your VI once you have started for whatever reason (infinite loop, taking too long), you can press the Pause button to halt the execution so that you can resume it later, or you can press the Abort Execution button . The Abort Execution button will completely terminate the execution and you will not be able to resume execution from the point you stopped [terminated] it at.

Remember to resume and finish execution when using the Pause button. If you press the Run button again while execution is paused, it will execute from where you paused it and NOT from the beginning. We highly recommend against using this button because it can trick you into believing that your program does not function properly when it might actually function correctly.